

SECRET

HANDLE VIA  
**BYEMAN**  
CONTROL SYSTEM

## (S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE NRO STAFF

December 13, 1982

## MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, SPECIAL SECURITY CENTER

SUBJECT: BYEMAN Cover Sheets

In a recent memorandum to members of the DCI Security Committee I described a procedure for handling BYEMAN information that is detrimental to the security of this sensitive material and requested each SECOM member to take the necessary action within his organization to correct it. The specific procedure I am referring to is the use of the first letter(s) or digraph(s)/trigraph(s) of BYEMAN project indicator words on a BYEMAN cover sheet while continuing to treat the cover sheet as unclassified. These cover sheets appear in non-BYEMAN and even non-SCI areas supposedly serving as sufficient protection for the contents of the document while in the possession of a BYEMAN briefed individual. The effect of this procedure is to expose the project compartmentation of the BYEMAN system to personnel who do not have BYEMAN access or a need-to-know. The open display of the filled-in cover sheets in non-BYEMAN areas also associates organizations, offices, and individuals with specific projects, thereby providing insight, in many cases, into the covert mission of the project through the type of involvement or support provided by that organization, office, or individual.

To correct this situation, I have instructed the SECOM principals not to use BYEMAN project indicator abbreviations (i.e., first letter, digraph, or trigraph) on BYEMAN cover sheets. The cover sheet will now serve only as a protective device to alert individuals to the compartmentation of the document within the BYEMAN system. Project/access compartmentation requirements will be obtained from the title page or first page of the document.


While I do not believe it necessary to discontinue use of existing stocks of cover sheets, I request that the "specific activity" lines be deleted from all future printings of BYEMAN cover sheets. This will necessitate a change in wording of the accompanying notice. May I suggest "Access to this document will be restricted to individuals approved for the specific activities listed on the cover, title page, or first page of this document."

The changes described above, combined with judicious monitoring of the Community's compliance with the new policy, should correct this poor security practice.

NRO review(s) completed.

25X1

NRO

  
JOHN F. MCNAMARA  
Special Assistant for  
Security
HANDLE VIA  
**BYEMAN**  
CONTROL SYSTEM

SECRET

CLASSIFIED BY BYEMAN - 1

DECL: OADR

CONTROL NO BYE 28803/82  
COPY 1 OF 2 COPIES  
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	SSC		
2			
3			
4			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.		DATE	

**SECRET**

(Security Classification)

CONTROL NO. BYE028803/02

COPY 1 OF 2

RFM ✓  
RR ✓

art AOE

Tom \_\_\_\_\_

Janice \_\_\_\_\_

\* Jordi \_\_\_\_\_

Sheela \_\_\_\_\_

Rachel \_\_\_\_\_

Handle Via

**BYEMAN**

Channels

Access to this document will be restricted to those approved for the following specific activities:

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\_\_\_\_\_

\* Jordi - Pls see  
me after all  
have seen.



Warning Notice

Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved

**NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION**

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions



**SECRET**

(Security Classification)

DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
USIBONLY-	USIB Departments Only
ORCON-	Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator
REL . . . -	This Information has been Authorized for Release to . . .

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